the problems of Cantonment Board, Danapur to the Prime Minister of India and to the Minister of State for Defence on the 5th October, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what are the details of action taken by Government to obviate the problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c) A representation dated 4-10-1993 from Shri Mohd. Moin Ansari, addressed to the Prime Minister and forwarded by Shri Fida Hussain Ansari, MLA Bihar Legislative Council on 5-10-1993 has been received. The representation seeks Central assistance to overcome problems relating to conversion of dry latrines into water borne system, repair of roads and drains, augmentation of water supply, improvement of sanitation and construction of a residence for the Cantonment Executive Officer.

The Central Government has been regularly sanctioning ordinary grants-in-aid to the Cantonment Board, Danapur to enable it to run the civic administration. The Government had sanctioned special grants-in-aid of Rs. 14,86,292.00 during 1990-91, out of which Rs. 6,86,292.00 were meant for repairs of roads and drains.

The Cantonment Board, Danapur has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 6,33,400.00 and Rs. 3,17,892.00 during 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively, on repair of roads and drains.

The Cantonment Board has constructed group latrines in 7 areas having 45 seats. Also 4 group latrines having 50 seats have been constructed in the Cantonment under the Ganga Action Plan. The Board has constructed septic tanks in common areas and have asked the owners of private residences to connect thein dry latrines to the septic tanks.

Garbage and night soil is being disposed off by the Cantonment Board by trenching for which one truck and four tractor-trollies are used.

As regards water supply, the per capita availability is reported to be adequate. The Board is operating 5 over-head tanks which together supply about 9 lakh ltrs. of water per day. No specific proposal has been forwarded by the Cantonment Board for purchase of generators for augmenting water supply.

It has not been possible for the Cantonment Board to take up construction of an alternate residential accommodation for the Cantonment Executive Officer on account of paucity of funds.

Roads damaged in Cantonment Board, Bihar

1945. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to floods, roads and drains in the Cantonment Board, Bihar have been badly damaged ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to repair them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) There are 2 Cantonments, namely, Danapur and Ramgarh, in Bihar. There is no report of damage to roads and drains in Ramgarh Cantonment due to floods. As regards Danapur Cantonment, certain damages were caused to roads and drains in the recent past. During 1990-91, the Central Government had sanctioned special grants-in-aid of Rs. 6,86,292.00 to enable the Cantonment Board to undertake special repairs of roads and drains. As a result of Central aid, the Cantonment Board has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 6,33,400.00 and Rs. 3,17,892.00 during 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively, on repairs of roads and drains.

Encroachment in the area of Cantonment Board, Danapur

1946. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the entire vacant space within Danapur Cantonment Board, Bihar has been encroached by anti-social elements in connivance with the cantonment Board's staff ; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take for removing the encroachments in the public interest and against the

involved employees of the Cantonment Board ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) It is a fact that 208 encroatments in a compact area in Danapur Cantonment have been noticed against which notices under Public Premises (Eviction) Act 1971 have been issued by the Cantonment Board. Government have no information on the anti-social activities of the encroachers. No report has been brought to the notice of the Govt. regarding connivance of the Cantonment Board staff with the encroachers.

Grants in aid to Cantonment Board, Danapur

1947. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the amount of grants in aid given by the Ministry of Defence to the Cantonment Board, Danapur, Bihar during the period from January, 1990 to 15th November, 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : Cantonment Board, Danapur (Bihar) was given Rs. 107.40 lakhs as ordinary Grants-in-aid and Rs. 14.86 lakhs as special Grants-in-aid during the period from January 1990 to 15th November, 1993.

Impact of scrapping of Cryogenic rocket deal with Russia

1948. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that consequent upon the scrapping of the cryogenic rocket engine deal, the defence purchases from Russia have been or are going to be whittled down ;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken to reduce defence cooperation with Russia to a bare minimum ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the supply of spares and equipments from Russia, particularly for the air-force, despite repeated assurances from the Yeltsin administration and also the conclusion of a $ 680 million credit agreement late last year, has virtually come to a halt ; and

(d) if so, what are the details of steps that Government have taken to cope with such a predicament ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

Reports of ships carrying arms in Southern coast

1949. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports of the movement of ships carrying arms for terrorists on the southern coastlines ;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to provide necessary facilities to the Coast Guards and Customs Department to intercept the illegal transport of arms ; and

(c) whether the Coast Guards and Customs Department have modern speedboats to match with the arms smugglers' activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Joint intensive surveillance operations are launched by the Coast Guards and Customs formations which are equipped with modern speed boats to intercept arms smuggler's operations.

Firing on Pakistan border

1950. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistani troops opened unprovoked firing in several Indian pickets in Rajouri and Poonch districts on Jammu and Kashmir borders ;

(b) if so, whether the firings were to cover up the infiltrators who have been sneaking into India to create disorder ;

(c) what are the total firings by the Pakistani forces in all sectors in India during September and October, 1993 ; and